

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01001 221649Z

42

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SCS-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 H-01 SS-15 /040 W

----- 125620

P R 221619Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 2491

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1001

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, SY

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF AP CORRESPONDENT LUDINGTON

REF: DAMASCUS 246 (USIA NOTAL)

LUDINGTON HAS WRITTEN STORY ABOUT HIS ARREST AND IT HAS BEEN
FILED TO NEW YORK BUT NOT YET RELEASED BY AP. PAO CURTISS
HAS ARRANGED TO TALK TO LUDINGTON ABOUT YOUR QUESTIONS AFTER
STORY IS RELEASED OR IN ANY CASE OVER WEEKEND.
MEANWHILE AP BEIRUT MANAGER HAWKINS VERY ANXIOUS TO
LEARN WHETHER OR NOT SENATOR PERCY PLAYED SIGNIFICANT ROLE
IN RESOLVING MATTER. HAWKINS BELIEVES AMBASSADOR MRUPHY
PROBABLY ASKED PERCY TO BRING UP SUBJECT DURING SUNDAY EVENING
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ASAD AND THAT AMBASSADOR MAY BE ABLE
CONFIRM THIS AND FILL IN SOME DETAILS. IF THAT SO, AP WISHES
TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO SENATOR PERCY AND OTHERS EMBASSY,
FEELS MAY HAVE HAD A HAND IN SECURING RELEASE. IN PASSING
BACK YOUR COMMENT PLEASE INDICATE WHAT CAN OR SHOULD NOT BE
MADE PUBLIC. SUSPECT THERE STILL OPPORTUNITY GET SUCH COMMENTS
REGARDING SENATOR PERCY IN AP STORY IF THAT DESIRABLE. IN ANY
CASE, IF EMBASSY BELIEVES SENTAOR OR OTHERS HAD A HAND IN RELEASE,
AP WOULD LIKE TO SEND TELEGRAMS OF APPRECIATION.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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